Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINR JA EC

SUBJ: BIODATA ON HIROSHI YOKOTA, JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO ECUADOR

REF: AMEMBASSY QUITO A-140, NOV 13, 1973

- 1. FOLLOWING BIODATA IS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO REFAIR. AMBASSADOR HIROSHI YOKOTA, CAREER DIPLOMAT, WAS BORN FEBRUARY 18, 1916. HE GRADUATED FROM TOKYO UNIVERSITY, LAW FACULTY, AND ENTERED MOFA IN 1941. FOLLOWING WARTIME SERVICE AS NAVY PAYMASTER LT (1942-45), YOKOTA RETURNED TO MOFA IN 1946. IN IMMEDIATE POSTWAR PERIOD, LIKE OTHER JAPANESE DIPLOMATS, HE WAS DETAILED TO CENTRAL LIAISON OFFICE, CONTACT POINT WITH U.S. OCCUPATION FORCES (1946-48). HE WAS THEN ASSIGNED TO PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (1948-50). FOLLOWING STUDY IN U.S. DURING 1950 (INSTITUTION UNKNOWN), HE RETURNED TO MOFA WHERE HE SERVED CONSECUTIVELY IN PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAUS (1951-53).
- 2. YOKOTA'S FIRST OVERSEAS POST WAS SWEDEN WHERE HE WAS FIRST SECRETARY FROM 1953 TO 1955. AFTER ANOTHER TOUR IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (1956-58), GE WAS U. N. BUREAU, SCIENCE DIVISION HEAD FROM 1958 TO 1960.POSTED TO INDIA, YOKOTA SERVED THERE UNTIL 1962, PROMOTED TO COUNSELOR IN SAME YEAR. ASSIGNED TO GOJ U.N. DELEGATION OFFICE FROM 1962 TO 1965, HE WAS MEMBER OF GOJ DELEGATION TO U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR FOUR SESSIONS AND ALSO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATTENDED SEVERAL UNESCO CONFERENCES IN GENEVA DURING THESE

YEARS. IN 1965, YOKOTA WAS TRANSFERRED TO UNITED KINGDOM WHERE HE WAS CONCURRENTLY CONSUL GENERAL, LONDON AND LATER MINISTER OF EMBASSY. DURING UK TOUR (1965-68), HE WAS DELEGATE TO LONDON MEETINGS OF INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMITTEE AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME AFFAIRS CONSULTATIVE ORRNIZATION. IN 1968, HE RETURNED TO MOFA AS COUNSELOR IN SECRETARIAT, POST HE HELD UNTIL NAMED AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS IN 1971. HE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO ECUADOR IN 1973.

3. YOKOTA AND HIS WIFE, EMI, HAVE TWO GROWN SONS, JUN, WHO GRADUATED FROM TOKYO UNIVERSITY, AND KEN, WHO GRADUATED FROM INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY IN TOKYO. AMBASSADOR IS REPORTEDLY INTERESTED IN MUSIC. SHOESMITH

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